



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JFM 1797

Applicant:

Mandt et al

Examiner:

Douglas Theisen

Serial No.:

10/591728

Group Art Unit:

1797

Filed:

September 1, 2006

Docket:

758.1824USWO

Confirmation

No.:

Notice of Allow.

Date:

Due Date:

Title:

TOP LOAD LIQUID FILTER ASSEMBLY FOR USE IWTH TREATMENT AGENT; AND,
METHODS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on January 18, 2008.

By: Jill Raboin
Name: Jill Raboin

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 3 Reference(s) and identified reports and exhibits
- Other: Communication Regarding IDS
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Merchant & Gould P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Randall A. Hillson
Name: Randall A. Hillson
Reg. No.: 31,838
Rhillson/jer



10/591728

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mandt et al. Examiner: Douglas Theisen
Serial No.: 10/591728 Group Art Unit: 1797
Date: September 1, 2006 Docket No.: 758.1824USWO
Re: TOP LOAD LIQUID FILTER ASSEMBLY FOR USE WITH
TREATMENT AGENT; AND, METHODS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 January 18, 2008.

By: *Jill Raboin*
Name: Jill Raboin

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R.
§ 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

Among other things, identified in the attached PTO 1449 form are US 2002/0195384 A1, and, WO 02/092193 A1.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign or PCT document listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Also, a copy of each document listed under "Other Documents" is provided.

Provided herewith as Exhibit A is a PCT Written Opinion for a corresponding PCT application; as Exhibit B, an International Search Report for the corresponding PCT application; and, as Exhibit C, an EPO Action, for a corresponding EP application. These are identified on the PTO 1449 form.

It is noted that the key reference cited and discussed regarding these exhibits is US 2002/0195384 A1, referenced above. It is also noted that PCT cited reference US 3,645,402 has previously been cited in the Supplemental IDS dated March 23, 2007.

The Examiner attention is also directed to US 7,160,451, previously cited, a copy enclosed, and US 7,238,285, copy enclosed, an application related to US 7,160,451. In particular, the Examiner's attention is directed to the issued claims of these two patents, for consideration with respect to double patenting issues. They are listed on the PTO 1449.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art."

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: January 18, 2008

By 
Randall A. Hillson
Reg. No. 31,838
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